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Diana T Fritz 05/24/2007 04:25:26 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

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Text:

UNCLASSIFIED

SIPDIS  
TELEGRAM

April 28, 2003

To: No Action Addressee  
Action: Unknown  
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 1992 - UNKNOWN)  
TAGS: OIIP, KMDR  
Captions: None  
Subject: MEDIA REACTION: IRAQ SECRETARIAL VISIT EXPLOSIONS IN BAGHDAD  
Ref: None

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UNCLAS ABU DHABI 01992

SIPDIS  
CXABU:  
ACTION: PAO  
INFO: ECON POL AMB DCM  
Laser1:  
ACTION: PAO

DISSEMINATION: PAO  
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: PAO:KVANDEVATE  
DRAFTED: PAO:AALKHATIB  
CLEARED: PAO:TPONCE

VZCZCADI901  
OO RUEHC RUENAAA RUEKJCS RUEHZM RUEHLO RUEHFR  
RHRMDAB RUCJACC RUCQSOC  
DE RUEHAD #1992/01 1180803  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 280803Z APR 03  
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9598  
RUENAAA/SECNAV WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RUEHZM/GCC COLLECTIVE  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0650  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0704  
RHRMDAB/COMUSNAVCENT  
RUCJACC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA//  
RUCQSOC/USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL//PA//

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 ABU DHABI 001992

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ARP; NEA/PPD; NEA/RA; INR/R/MR; PA;  
INR/NESA; INR/B; IIP/G/NEA-SA  
WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESS OFFICE; NSC  
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA  
USCINCCENT FOR POLAD  
LONDON FOR GOLDRICH; PARIS FOR O'FRIEL

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [TC](#)  
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: IRAQ SECRETARIAL VISIT EXPLOSIONS IN BAGHDAD

11. SUMMARY: SECRETARY RUMSFELD'S VISIT TO THE UAE AND OTHER

COUNTRIES IN THE REGION, CIVILIAN DEATHS DUE TO AN ARMS DUMP EXPLOSION IN BAGHDAD, AND ANTI-AMERICAN DEMONSTRATIONS IN IRAQ DOMINATED COVERAGE IN UAE MEDIA. IN "AL BAYAN," UAE COLUMNIST AYSHA SULTAN CRITICIZED ANY 'EXCUSES' GIVEN FOR THE CRIMES COMMITTED BY THE PREVIOUS IRAQI REGIME. IN "AL ITTIHAD," UAE COLUMNIST DR. SHAMLAN AL EISSA CRITICIZED THE ATTITUDES OF A FEW GULF COUNTRIES TOWARDS THE AMERICAN PRESENCE IN IRAQ. EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF "AL BAYAN," KHALED MOHAMMED AHMED, COMMENTED ON THE MANY CONSEQUENCES OF THE WAR AND ITS EFFECTS ON NOT ONLY IRAQ BUT THE ENTIRE ARAB WORLD. END SUMMARY.

12. U.S. SECRETARY OF DEFENSE DONALD RUMSFELD'S VISIT TO THE GULF STARTED WITH THE UAE AND WAS COVERED IN ALL ARABIC AND ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS. EXCERPTS OF SECRETARY RUMSFELD'S ABU DHABI TV INTERVIEW WERE ALSO CARRIED IN UAE DAILIES. THE INTERVIEW WAS BROADCAST IN ITS ENTIRETY DURING THE TWO-HOUR PROGRAM, "THE TURNING POINT," ON ABU DHABI TV THE SAME NIGHT AND REBROADCAST DURING MORNING NEWS PROGRAMMING.

13. CRITICIZING ANY EXCUSES FOR THE CRIMES COMMITTED BY THE PREVIOUS IRAQI REGIME, UAE COLUMNIST AYSHA SULTAN WROTE IN DUBAI-BASED BUSINESS-ORIENTED ARABIC DAILY "AL-BAYAN" ON 4/28:

"... HOW IS IT THAT SOME ARE STILL LOOKING FOR EXCUSES FOR THIS REGIME, DESCRIBING IT AS PAN-ARABIST BECAUSE IT DID NOT ACQUIESCE TO SIGNING ANY AGREEMENTS WITH ISRAEL AND IT OPPOSED THE U.S. AND IT ... ? HOW COULD EXCUSES BE GIVEN TO THE MASSACRES, THE INJUSTICE, AND THE TYRANNY? WHERE DID THE MILLIONS OF THE (MONEY OF THE) IRAQI PEOPLE GO? AND THE OIL BILLIONS? WHY IS EVERYTHING BEING GATHERED INTO BOXES AND BAGS BY THE AMERICANS, AND TRANSFERRED TO UNKNOWN 'SECURE' PLACES ABOUT WHICH ONLY THE AMERICANS KNOW? WHY WEREN'T THEY USED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE OF IRAQ? FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF IRAQ? FOR REBUILDING IRAQ? WHEN THE WATER PUMP INITIATED BY SHEIKH ZAYED BIN SULTAN AL NAHYAN IN BASRA WAS READY WITHIN ONLY 36 HOURS, WHILE A WHOLE REGIME WAS UNABLE TO PROVIDE THIS FOR 12 YEARS, LEAVING PEOPLE TO DIE OF THIRST, THEN WHAT COULD BE SAID AFTERWARDS? WHAT DEFENSE COULD BE ACCEPTABLE OR EVEN FORGIVEN?"

14. COMMENTING ON THE DOUBLE STANDARDS OF ARAB LEADERS ON THE U.S. PRESENCE IN IRAQ, DR. ANWAR GHARGHASH WROTE IN ABU DHABI-BASED SEMI-GOVERNMENT "AL ITTIHAD" ON 4/28:

"... THE REQUEST OF THE NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES FOR THE U.S. TO SHORTEN ITS PRESENCE IN THE REGION SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY INNER INITIATIVES TO DEAL WITH THESE NEW ASPECTS. THESE INITIATIVES SHOULD INCLUDE AN OPEN METHOD ASSERTING THE POLITICAL AND CIVIL RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE. THESE COUNTRIES SHOULD NOT REJECT THE U.S. PRESENCE ON THE GROUNDS OF INDEPENDENCE, WHILE THEY DO NOT RESPECT OTHER VALUES THAT ARE ESSENTIAL FOR AN ARAB PERSON ... AND WHOEVER IS ASKING WASHINGTON TO LEAVE IRAQ CAN'T CONTINUE HIS ABUSIVE TREATMENT OF HIS OWN PEOPLE ..."

15. URGING NO ONE TO BELIEVE THAT THE U.S. OCCUPATION OF IRAQ IS TO ESTABLISH DEMOCRACY, SHARJAH-BASED PAN-ARAB DAILY "AL-KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED 4/27:

"... MAYBE HISTORY, BOTH RECENT AND ANCIENT HISTORY, CONFIRMS THAT THE U.S. IS AND WAS NEVER A COUNTRY THAT RESPECTS DEMOCRACY AND THE DECISIONS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. THROUGH ITS POLICY, THE U.S. HAS BEEN GREATLY SUPPORTING TOTALITARIANISM AND DICTATORSHIP. ALL ITS (U.S.) WARS IN THE WORLD WERE AIMED AT DEFEATING THE PEOPLE AND CONFISCATING THEIR LIBERTY IN ORDER TO ATTAIN ITS BENEFITS AS A GREATER COUNTRY. NOW THE U.S. IS SEEKING TO ESTABLISH A NEW WORLD ORDER UNDER ITS OWN CONTROL TO DOMINATE THE WORLD THROUGH POWER AND FORCE, NOT THROUGH LIBERTY AND DEMOCRACY ..."

16. UNDER THE HEADLINE "BURGLARY IN IRAQ," "AL-BAYAN" EDITORIALIZED 4/27:

"... WHAT WE ARE SEEING NOW CONFIRMS THAT THE U.S. IS SEEKING TOTAL HEGEMONY IN IRAQ, OR SPECIFICALLY IN REGARDS TO ITS ECONOMIC WEALTH. IT (THE U.S.) HAS ALREADY CHOSEN TWO FINANCIAL OFFICIALS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY IN ORDER TO CONTROL THE ECONOMY OF IRAQ, AND THEY ARE 'PETER MCPHERSON' AND 'GEORGE WOOLF.' SO IT IS CLEAR WHO WILL BE SELLING IRAQI OIL AND WHO HAS THE RIGHT FOR ITS DISPOSAL?!"

¶7. CRITICIZING THE ATTITUDES OF A FEW GULF COUNTRIES TOWARDS THE AMERICAN PRESENCE IN IRAQ, DR. SHAMLAN AL EISSA WROTE IN "AL ITTIHAD" ON 4/27:

"... MAYBE WE DO NOT HAVE THE SAME STANCE AS ISLAMIC IRAN AND NATIONALISTIC SYRIA HAVE, BUT WE DO UNDERSTAND THEIR POINT OF VIEW AND ACCEPT IT. WHAT WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND IS THE STANCE OF SOME OF THE GULF COUNTRIES TOWARDS THE U.S. SOME OF THESE COUNTRIES HAVE STRONG CONNECTIONS WITH THE U.S. IN ADDITION TO HAVING U.S. MILITARY BASES FOR OVER 30 YEARS ..."

¶8. COMMENTING ON THE DILEMMA CONFRONTING THE ARAB WORLD FOLLOWING THE WAR IN IRAQ, "AL-BAYAN" EDITORIALIZED 4/26:

"...THE TRUTH IS THAT THE ARABS ARE FACED WITH A REAL DILEMMA BECAUSE OF AMERICAN CONTROL (OF THE REGION). ONE OF ITS COUNTRIES (ARAB COUNTRIES) FELL UNDER AMERICAN OCCUPATION, SO IT IS FAR FROM THE TRUTH THAT WASHINGTON MIGHT REPLAY THIS INEXPENSIVE GAME IN ORDER TO OCCUPY ANOTHER ARAB COUNTRY..."

¶9. IN A CLOSING STATEMENT, SALIM WROTE IN "AL-KHALEEJ" ON 4/26:

"UNTIL NOW, THE U.S. HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO PROVE THAT IRAQ HAS WMD DURING THE ERA OF THE PREVIOUS REGIME, DESPITE THE FACT AND DESPERATE INSPECTION EFFORTS CARRIED OUT BY U.S. TROOPS IN IRAQ. WASHINGTON HAS TO PROVE THIS IN ORDER TO HAVE A MAJOR EXCUSE FOR ITS ATTACK ON IRAQ, OTHERWISE, IT WILL LOSE ITS CREDIBILITY, WHICH IT ALREADY LOST EVEN BEFORE ITS ATTACKS. WHAT IF THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION PROVIDES PROOF BUT DOES NOT SUCCEED IN FINDING THE WMD? NOTHING! WHO WILL THEN PUNISH THE U.S.?"

¶10. UNDER THE HEADLINE "THE CONSEQUENCES OF WAR," EDITOR-IN-CHIEF KHALED MOHAMMED AHMED WROTE IN A FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE IN "AL BAYAN" ON 4/26:

"... THE ARAB REGION WILL BE FACED WITH INTERESTING DEVELOPMENTS THAT SWING BETWEEN TENSION AND APPEAL, BETWEEN ATTRACTION AND INTIMIDATION, AND BETWEEN SHOCK AND AWE. SO ARE THE ARABS READY FOR THIS? HAVE THEY BENEFITED FROM THE IRAQI LESSON, OR DO THEY NEED MORE SHOCKS? NOW, AND THROUGH BAGHDAD, PASSES THE ROADMAP. WILL IT ALLOW THE PALESTINIANS TO REACH THE END OF THE ROAD, OR IS THE PATH STILL LADEN WITH THORNS EVEN AFTER THE FALL OF BAGHDAD?"

¶11. UNDER THE HEADLINE, "FACING THE EARTHQUAKE AND ITS AFTERSHOCKS," "AL KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED 4/25:

"... THERE IS A NEED FOR AN ACCURATE, TRANSPARENT AND THOROUGH LOOK AT REALITY ... IN ADDITION, WE NEED TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THIS NATION'S POTENTIAL AND CAPABILITIES THAT COULD BE EMPLOYED IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. THIS IS ONLY IF ARAB COUNTRIES REALLY WANT TO DEVELOP IT THROUGH A COOPERATIVE ARAB EFFORT TO THE LEVEL THAT MAKES THIS NATION PRODUCTIVE AND ABLE TO GUIDE ITS OWN FUTURE ... WITHOUT THIS, THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE EARTHQUAKE WILL DESTROY WHAT IS LEFT."

WAHBA